

Shirley once said, "We must build new institutions or reform old ones so that there are avenues of upward mobility and achievement that will allow all citizens, black and white, to maintain creative tensions between themselves. If we fail, this nation will be poorer for it and if we succeed, it will be richer indeed."

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague Representative BARBARA LEE, for affording Members the opportunity to mark this occasion recognizing Shirley Chisholm who is a true public servant, a champion for all people, and a woman whom I am proud and honored to call my friend.

A TRIBUTE FOR FATHER'S DAY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, in light of the fact that this Sunday is Father's Day, I would like to share with you a letter sent to me by the stepson of a dear friend of mine. I believe it captures the essence of this important holiday for Dads, like myself, all around the country.

DEAR MR. HONDA: While my name may not be familiar to many in Washington, D.C., I'm sure that the name of my stepfather will—Norm Mineta.

This past year has been an amazing journey for my family—and for my family, that's really saying something. My stepfather's life reads like a story one would learn about in a history book or a novel. At the age of twelve, he was taken from his house and detained in an internment camp along with 120,000 others in this nation who happened to be of Japanese ancestry.

After the Second World War ended, he and his family returned to San Jose and he attended and graduated from the University of California Berkeley. Later, during the Korean War, he joined the Army where he served as an intelligence officer. After his military service he worked in the family business at the Mineta insurance company until once more he answered the call to public service. Norm served in the San Jose City Council, as the Mayor of San Jose, and 21 years as the Representative for the 15th Congressional District of California.

After he left the Congress, he worked for Lockheed Martin as senior vice president for almost five years until President Clinton tapped him for the position of Commerce Secretary. After the 2000 election, President Bush chose him to serve America once more as the Transportation Secretary.

Norm's list of firsts is beyond impressive—it's amazing. He was the first American of Japanese descent to serve as a Mayor of a major city in the continental United States. As the Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure, he was the first Asian Pacific American to serve as Chairman of a full Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives (Chairman of the transportation committee). He was also the first Asian Pacific American to serve on any President's Cabinet, and the first Cabinet member to serve in successive administrations for two different political parties. And this only scratches the surface. You could fill volumes with all of my stepfather's achievements. In fact, someday, I'm certain they will. But there is a deeper reason why I am writing this letter.

As I witnessed all of the events taking place in my family's life over the past year, and I read all of the articles and stories

about my step dad's life, and I heard all of the speeches, I noticed that something was missing—the most important something. Who Norman Y. Mineta really is, not just what he has done in public life.

Norm is one of the kindest, most decent man I have ever been privileged to know. He embodies what the Founding Fathers envisioned when they set up our system of government. He is a man who truly cares more about others than he does of himself. He does not seek glory, but rather takes pride in bettering the lives of others. Most importantly, he is humble.

As a Member of Congress, Norm would go to events at the White House, as other important people did. He would stand in the receiving line to meet the President and when his time would come he would shake the President's hand saying, "Hello Mr. President. I'm Norm Mineta from California." To which every President would respond, "Norm, I know who you are." Later he would say to my mom, with wonder in his eyes. "The President said he knows who I am!"

Norm Mineta is a man who puts family above all else. His biography in "Who's Who in America" does not describe how he canceled all of his plans the day my family's dog, Tribble, died. His resume does not reflect the pride he felt when my stepbrother, Dave Mineta, was elected to the school board of Pacifica, California. Nor do the official records of the Congress contain the fact that he cried when Dave asked his father to swear him into his new position on the school board. Norm was so excited when my brother Mark and his wife called home to tell the news that they were pregnant with their first child. As a father, he took as much pride in the fact that in my stepbrother, Stu Mineta, was hired at a regional airline as a pilot as he did in his own appointment to the Cabinet.

After coming home from a long day at the office, Norm would always takes times, and considerable joy, in playing with his two dogs. Norm has been known to fall asleep whenever the family comes together to watch a movie. Watching a movie on video with Norm often involves constantly prodding him to make sure he is still awake. Often times he will fall asleep, but deny this to us when we call him on it. Norm has been a wonderful husband to my mother in more ways than I could ever begin to describe. He refers to my mother as "honey" and "dear" in public, but in private, he calls her "pal," and that is what they truly are—the best of friends.

My life with Norm has been a wonderful blessing. Life doesn't always happen the way you plan and sometimes people get divorced. Such was the case with my mother and father. And to this day, I love my father very much. I have been blessed twice, for God brought into my life Norman Mineta. A man whom history will remember much longer than it will remember most of us. I am also very fortunate because Norm is a man that I will remember in ways that the history books will never be able to capture. Our nation will remember Norm as many great things, veteran, Mayor, Congressional leader, two-time Cabinet Secretary, but the greatest of these titles and accolades to me, will always be "Dad."

Sincerely,

BOB BRANTER.

RECOGNIZING VALLEY HOSPITAL IN RIDGEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Valley Hospital in Ridgewood, New Jersey on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. From a small and difficult beginning, the Valley Hospital has become a premier example of quality and commitment to medical excellence. This weekend, the Valley Hospital will be honored as a Hermitage Pioneer Corporation at the Hermitage Rose Ball in Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey. It is an honor to recognize this hospital for their service to northern New Jersey.

The Valley Hospital opened its doors in 1951 with 108 beds, 22 bassinets and 268 physicians and employees. Over 4,700 patients were admitted and served by the hospital. Through their exceptional leadership and vision, Valley has expanded and continually met the changing healthcare needs of the ever-growing community. I am proud to say that Valley now has over 600 physicians and 3,000 employees. Last year the hospital served 42,540 patients and welcomed 3,221 babies. Under Mike Azzara's guidance as Chairman of Valley Health Systems, and Audrey Meyer's leadership as President and CEO of the Valley Hospital, the hospital has entered the 21st century as a premier provider of health care in not only New Jersey but the entire Northeast United States.

This achievement has not come without a struggle. Plans to open a hospital in northwest New Jersey began nearly forty years before ground was broken. Community groups gathered to raise money for a hospital, however, the stock market crash and the Great Depression stalled their attempts. Under the leadership of the Women's Auxiliaries in 1944, local residents donated almost \$1,000,000 to break ground in 1949.

The Valley Hospital exists because of a determined group of local citizens who very early on saw a need and overcame the odds to make this into a reality. This is the classic American dream. Such outstanding dedication is still visible in the hospital today as the Valley Hospital looks forward to the needs of the next fifty years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in commending the Valley Hospital for its service to the community, and recognizing those committed to continuing its tradition of excellence.

HONORING PAUL WENDLER

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and express gratitude to my good friend Paul Wendler for his many years of service and for his significant contributions to the conservation of wildlife and natural resources in Michigan and the entire Great Lakes region.

Paul has dedicated his life to making his community a better place to live for all citizens

and he has earned many plaudits and awards for his numerous accomplishments. From his outstanding record of achievement in management with the Saginaw Steering Gear Division of General Motors Corporation to his tenure as Mayor of the City of Saginaw and his successful efforts to build the Saginaw Civic Center, Paul's energetic and enthusiastic leadership has served as a towering model for others to emulate.

While his extensive involvement in community service has extended to a wealth of projects, Paul's particular passion has been his devotion to preserving the vitality and abundance of wildlife and natural resources throughout our state, nation and the entire world. His membership in conservation and sportsmen's clubs are too numerous to list, but his vast experience in the conservation movement includes many leadership roles, among them his position as President of the Michigan Wildlife Foundation and President of the Michigan United Conservation Club.

Throughout all his years of community and public service, Paul has never sought the limelight for himself nor has he accepted full acclaim for his achievements. He has always been the first to share credit and to suggest that others played a far greater role. He would be the first to acknowledge the significant contributions others have made to his success, including the vital support of his family. Paul's wife, Phoebe, and their children, Paul, Anne and Gretchen, have shared his love for our precious natural resources and they have been an important part of his efforts to protect and preserve the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing gratitude to Paul Wendler and his family for their commitment to conservation. I am confident that they will continue to work hard to ensure the viability of our woods and waterways well into the future.

CYPRIOI ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE ONGOING DIVISION OF CYPRUS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the RECORD my statement from the Committee on International Relations Subcommittee on Europe hearing on June 13, 2001.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to have this opportunity to speak in strong support of the U.S. relationship with these three important countries: Greece, Cyprus and Turkey. However, I would like to speak, in particular, about two key issues which have no doubt been the focus of this hearing today—that of Cypriot accession to the European Union (EU) and the ongoing division of Cyprus.

In its conclusions at Helsinki, the European Council, in December of 1999, welcomed the launch of proximity talks that year aiming at a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem. The Council further noted that, while a political settlement of the Cyprus problem would facilitate accession of Cyprus to the EU, it would not be a precondition to accession. In his confirmation hearing held on March 20, Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Marc Grossman stated that we must impress upon the Turkish Cypriots and the people in Ankara that

they have got to get involved in the stalled proximity talks. A settlement to the problem would surely be a welcome development for all the governments involved.

Most of us understand that accession of Cyprus to the EU will provide a much-needed impetus to a political solution. But, what Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş must understand is that Cyprus will accede to the EU whether or not he returns to the negotiating table. Because Cyprus is divided, I fear the people living on the northern part of the island under Mr. Denktaş's rule, will not benefit from EU membership. The north must rejoin the rest of the island so that its people can share in the wealth, both political and economic, which EU membership has to offer. Mr. Denktaş's recalcitrance will not block the Cypriot government from reaching its goal. What Mr. Denktaş must decide is whether or not he wants to be a productive part of Cyprus' future. I truly hope, for the sake of all Cypriots, that he elects to do so.

The people of Cyprus, with their long and rich cultural and political history, deserve far more than to see their island forever divided because of misguided political aspirations. There must be a reunited Cyprus, one that is bizonal, bicomunal and federal, created on the basis of the United Nations Security Council resolutions. I urge Mr. Denktaş to return to the negotiating table once again so that a negotiated settlement can be reached. EU accession for Cyprus will benefit everyone: the U.S., Greece, Turkey, and all of Cyprus' other allies. Cyprus must take its rightful place in the community of nations as a strong, unified country with the opportunity to grow and prosper economically, to be afforded the same legal, political and social rights as other nations. Cypriot accession to the EU will begin that process, but resolution of the political problem dividing the island will provide the ultimate closure Cyprus needs to move forward.

In closing, I would like to commend my colleagues, Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney and Congressman Michael Bilirakis, for introducing a House Concurrent Resolution in support of Cypriot accession to the EU. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of that bill.

TRIBUTE TO UNIVERSITY OF SANTA CLARA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the University of Santa Clara.

The University of Santa Clara became California's first institution of higher learning in 1851 and is celebrating its Sesquicentennial Year in 2000–2001, on the same campus it has occupied continuously since its founding. This campus is home to the beautiful Mission Santa Clara.

The University of Santa Clara excels in meeting its goal of educating women and men of competence, conscience, and compassion. The more than 55,000 alumni of Santa Clara University are leaders in business, industry, government, the spiritual community, education, the arts, athletic endeavors and civic life throughout the United States. The University of Santa Clara began its graduate division in 1912 and today provides highly respected graduate programs in Law, Business, Counseling Psychology, Education, Pastoral Ministries, and Engineering.

The University of Santa Clara opens its doors to the community twelve months a year with special programs, exhibits, and events that inform and entertain visitors to the campus. Outstanding leaders of Silicon Valley, the Bay Area, and the world are regularly welcomed to visit the University and share their experiences and insights. The campus community of the University of Santa Clara includes many individuals who serve on community and church boards. These community members also dedicate hours of volunteer time to homeless shelters, elementary and secondary schools, to those who seek justice; in short, they participate fully with the broader community.

In California, a state that leads the nation in accepting immigrants from around the world, the University of Santa Clara continues to be committed to preserving ethnic and cultural diversity on its campus.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute to the University of Santa Clara on its Sesquicentennial Anniversary, and I commend and congratulate the University on this important occasion.

HONORING FRANK AND GRACE BARR

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Frank and Grace Barr for their contributions to historic preservation and community service in northern New Jersey. This weekend, Frank and Grace Barr will be the recipients of the Hermitage Volunteer Appreciation Award of 2001. Their leadership in the development of the Hermitage is a remarkable achievement and I commend them for their efforts. The results of their dedication are felt not only at the Hermitage, but throughout our community. As community leaders for over thirty years, they are outstanding examples of the type of people who make Bergen County such a wonderful place.

We take tremendous pride in the Hermitage in Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey. Built in 1740, the Hermitage was the home of Theodosia Prevost, who invited George Washington and his officers to stay at the estate after the Battle of Monmouth in July of 1778. One of Washington's officers, Aaron Burr, became a frequent visitor afterward and eventually proposed marriage to Theodosia. Attendees of the couple's wedding at the Hermitage included James Monroe, Alexander Hamilton, and the Marquis de Lafayette.

After its noteworthy beginnings, the Hermitage was donated to the State of New Jersey and has been restored as a museum and National Historic Site through the work of the Friends of the Hermitage. It is through the continued dedication of people such as Frank and Grace Barr that we can continue to enjoy this treasure. Frank and Grace have been active supporters of the Friends of the Hermitage since 1976 and continue to pledge their time and effort to this landmark. It is an honor to recognize such a dedicated couple.

Grace Barr served on the Board of Trustees for six years and is now a member of the Hermitage development committee. An active and